

46 East State St. Montpelier, VT 05602 | (802) 223-7222

March 8, 2021

Vermont General Assembly 115 State Street Montpelier, VT 05602

To the Vermont General Assembly,

I am writing to express support for H.218, a bill that would expand sales of raw milk in Vermont beginning as early as July 2021. As a raw milk consumer, I want increased access to this farm fresh product.

H.218 as introduced would allow farms following tier two requirements to be able to sell raw milk at other farm's farmstands and CSAs within 30 miles point-to-point of the farm where it was produced. This bill would provide a welcome opportunity for diversified vegetable, livestock and other farms across the state to collaborate with neighboring dairy farmers to fill a gaping hole in farm stand and CSA offerings. This bill would also provide more equitable access to markets for rural raw milk producers, and is an investment in resilient, community-scale food systems that increase our food sovereignty and food security.

I understand the health risks and concerns around consuming raw milk and acknowledge my role in maintaining the safety of this product after purchase.

Sincerely,

Madeleine Meller, Lincoln Star Yesman, South Royalton Marilyn Trapeni, Middletown Springs Tatiana Abatemarco, Bennington Sophie Cassel, Burlington Olivia Bulger, Hinesburg Amanda Adams, Westford Elizabeth Hammond, Shoreham Karsten Marshall-Otto, Burlington John Brawley, North Ferrisburgh Katrin Consler, Fairfax Isaac Bissell, South Burlington Cory Froning, Richmond Louise Graf, Bradford Susan Dorn, Hyde Park

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